



2004 Bridge Study Comment Summary

- **Bridge.** Design a welcoming, aesthetically pleasing bridge because it is the primary entrance into Moab. The design should be non-obtrusive and compatible with the natural surroundings.
- **Bicyclists/Pedestrians.** The project team should provide safe bicycle and pedestrian access throughout the corridor, including across the bridge and to various recreation areas to eliminate the need to cross US 191.
- **Gateway Plan.** UDOT should consider the Gateway Plan (developed by the City of Moab and Grand County) during design, including incorporating plans for developing recreation areas and expanding trail development.
- **Capacity.** The project should include enough capacity on the bridge and in the project area to allow safe travel through the corridor now and into the future.
- **Business Access.** UDOT should ensure that enough lanes are provided for access to businesses and that acceleration lanes are provided to accommodate buses and boat trailers.
- **Courthouse Wash.** Improvements to the bridge at lower Courthouse Wash should be considered in this project.
- **Wildlife.** The project team should address wildlife fencing and crossings to allow wildlife safe access to the river. Consideration needs to be given to threatened and endangered species in the area.
- **Drainage.** Drainage improvements on the north end of Moab should be incorporated to protect water quality in the area.
- **Intersections.** The project team should consider intersection improvements throughout the project area to accommodate projected growth.
- **Construction.** Construction should be planned to minimize impacts and accommodate traffic, especially during the tourist season. UDOT needs to minimize construction impacts such as light, dust, and noise impacts.
- **Recreation.** The project should provide adequate and safe recreation access under the bridge.
- **Traffic Calming.** Traffic-calming measures to slow vehicles and reduce traffic noise should be incorporated into the project.
- **Tailings Site.** The project team should consider the issues regarding the uranium-tailings site in the project area.
- **Cultural Properties.** The project team should work to protect natural, cultural, and historic properties in the project area.

Agency Comments

- **Right-of-Way and Arches National Park.** UDOT will need to get easements from the National Park Service for any land needed for the project.
- **Easement from Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands.** An easement will be needed for impacts to sovereign lands. The sovereign lands would be associated with the Colorado River.
- **Cultural Resources.** There are cultural resources in the area: an old wagon road, a prehistoric rock art panel at Lower Courthouse Wash, and dinosaur tracks near Lower Courthouse Wash.
- **Gateway Plan.** The City of Moab and Grand County have developed a Gateway Plan that calls for a boulevard entry, landscaping, and bicycle lanes for the US 191 entrance into Moab. UDOT's alternatives should be consistent with this plan.
- **Lions Park.** Grand County is planning improvements to Lions Park, located on the north and south sides of the river. Utah State University designed the improvements. Lions Park may also be used as a parking/staging area for bicyclists in the future.
- **Water Rights Permit.** UDOT or its contractor will need to obtain a water rights permit if the project requires any water from the river. A permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will also be required if there are threatened or endangered species in the river.
- **General Permit 40 for Stream Alteration.** A stream alteration permit will be required for any modifications to the river.



US-191, Colorado River Bridge, #C285
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- **Stream Alteration Permit for Lower Courthouse Wash.** Modifying Lower Courthouse Wash could also require a stream alteration permit since the wash is a riparian environment.
- **Cultural Resources.** The U.S. Department of Energy conducted an archeological search on a large area near the Colorado River Bridge project for the purposes of assessing a route for the Moab mill tailings site.
- **Bighorn Sheep.** There are bighorn sheep in the project area.
- **Traffic Survey.** The National Park Service requested a copy of the results of the traffic study.
- **Parking and Access at Lower Courthouse Wash.** There is hiking access at Lower Courthouse Wash to the rock art panel and the Lower Courthouse Wash trailhead. This parking area may need to be expanded to accommodate hikers and to serve as a staging area for bicyclists. This area is outside the limits of Arches National Park.
- **BLM Kiosk.** The Bureau of Land Management is planning a short-term parking area with an information kiosk at the intersection of SR 191 and SR 279 (Potash Road). There is a small parcel of public land on this corner.
- **Bridge Location.** The attending agencies did not raise any "fatal flaw" concerns with the bridge location. The National Park Service asked to place the new bridge downstream of the current one, away from National Park Service property.